

Message Text

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SUBJECTCCMS: ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF DRINKING WATER

PILOT STUDY, NATO HEADQUARTERS, BRUSSELS, DEC. 2-3, 1976.

REF: A) STATE 278074 B) USNATO 5599

SUMMARY: EXPERTS FROM NINE NATO COUNTRIES MET AT NATO
HEADQUARTERS ON DECEMBER 2-3, 1976, TO DISCUSS THE
FEASIBILITY OF THE U.S. PROPOSED CCMS PILOT STUDY ON
DRINKING WATER. THE EXPERTS DEVELOPED AN OUTLINE OF TOPICS
FOR THE PILOT STUDY WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE SPRING CCMS
PLENARY FOR APPROVAL. THE PROPOSED PILOT STUDY WILL COLLECT
INFORMATION ON THE BEST AVAILABLE WATER SUPPLY PRACTICES SO
THAT THEY CAN BE PUT INTO WIDESPREAD USE AS RAPIDLY AS
POSSIBLE. END SUMMARY.

1. NATO COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE SUBJECT MEETING
INCLUDED: CANADA (ROFT AND BECKING), GREECE (PANOGIOTOU)
ITALY (DI PINTO), BELGIUM (BOUQUIAUX AND DE MAEYER),
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UK (REID AND DICK) PORTUGAL (SILVA), NORWAY (MYHRSTAD),

GERMANY (BAUER AND HASSELBARTH), US (COTRUVO AND HARRIS). THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES SENT OBSERVERS (BIART AND VACCAREZZA). OTHER COUNTRIES (FRANCE, NETHERLANDS, DENMARK, AND TURKEY) HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE STUDY, BUT DID NOT SEND EXPERTS TO THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING. THE EXPERTS AGREED THAT THE PILOT STUDY SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE PROBLEMS OF PROVIDING SAFE DRINKING WATER IN INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS WHERE CHEMICAL AND MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINATION FROM ANTHROPOGENIC SOURCES PLACE MORE SEVERE DEMANDS ON THE LOCATION AND PROTECTION OF WATER SOURCES AS WELL AS THE TECHNOLOGY NECESSARY TO CONVERT RAW WATER INTO SAFE DRINKING WATER.

2. THE GROUP DEVELOPED A REVISED OUTLINE FOR THE PILOT STUDY WHICH CUT ACCROSS THE MAJOR GENERIC SUBJECTS OF WATER SUPPLY TECHNOLOGY AND INCLUDE ANALYSIS AND DETECTION OF POLLUTANTS, INSTRUMENTATION, MICROBIOLOGY, PROCESSES, ENGINEERING HEALTH SCIENCE, DATA HANDLING AND DISSEMINATION.

3. EACH OF THE ATTENDEES DISCUSSED CURRENT LEVELS OF DRINKING WATER RELATED NATIONAL RESEARCH AND REGULATORY ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS, AND TENTATIVELY INDICATED POSSIBLE AREAS OF PARTICIPATION IN THE OUTLINED STUDY. PARTICIPANTS WERE ASKED TO CONSIDER ACCEPTING LEADERSHIP ROLES IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE PILOT STUDY SO THAT ASSIGNMENTS COULD BE MADE AT THE FIRST EXPERTS MEETING.

4. THE PILOT STUDY SHOULD PRODUCE A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE ART IN MATTERS RELATING TO DRINKING WATER IN THE PARTICIPATING NATIONS. IT WILL INCLUDE EVALUATION OF EXISTING TECHNOLOGY AND PRACTICE FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS, PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION, PRACTICALITY, COSTS, GENERAL AVAILABILITY, AND ASSOCIATED BY-PRODUCT HAZARDS. THE PROJECT WILL ALSO EXPLORE EMERGING TECHNOLOGY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER TECHNICAL EFFORTS. THE IDENTIFICATION OF ONGOING ACTIVITIES AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION BETWEEN PARTICIPANTS SHOULD HAVE THE ADDITIONAL BENEFIT OF ALLOWING NATIONAL PROGRAMS TO FOCUS ON SPECIFIC AREAS OF WATER SUPPLY RESEARCH WITHOUT DUPLICATING WORK BEING DONE ELSEWHERE.

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5. WE EXPECT THE STUDY ON DRINKING WATER TO BE FORMALLY PROPOSED AND INITIATED AT THE FEBRUARY PLENARY IN DUSSELDORF. THE FIRST WORKING LEVEL EXPERTS MEETING WILL PROBABLY BE HELD IN BRUSSELS IN EARLY APRIL. IT IS HOPED THAT THE NATO COUNTRIES NOT PRESENT AT THE BRUSSELS MEETING WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THE STUDY. THE ENTIRE PILOT STUDY WILL LAST APPROXIMATELY 1 1/2 TO 2 YEARS. STRAUSS-HUPE

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